

NEW HIGH RECORD FOR BETHLEHEM STEEL SHARES—MONEY RATES A TRIFLE FIRMER

ANOTHER NEW HIGH FOR BETHLEHEM

Stock Rose 17 Points on Report of Big Contract From England.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Operations on the Stock Exchange were on a smaller scale today and conditions were mixed, induced by a great deal of outside profit-taking. The commission houses were sellers in many cases on the bid prices at the opening. There was a large accumulation of liquidating orders when the opening song sounded. Floor traders did not experience the difficulty of Saturday in getting orders through and trading was carried on under much quietness.

While the realising sales were being made in many parts of the list, particularly the standard issues, there was a good demand for other shares, which showed strength, and the market therefore became irregular. This demand became more pronounced in the afternoon session, and it seemed to come largely from the speculative interest. The floor traders also picked up some of the face of the day, conditions the market from the low, but the market was broad.

The dominating stock in the market was again United States Steel, and operations, for the most part, seemed to be governed by its actions. In the early part of the session it advanced, but lost its gain around midday, and later recovered. From a stock-market point of view the statement of the corporation of unfilled tonnage in March, which showed a total of 52,922 tons, is not regarded as unfavorable.

It is pointed out that prices for many classes of steel products are now higher than they have been, and this should help the Steel Corporation. Then, too, the steel mills are now operating at about 70 per cent. of capacity, and are about breaking even between the receipt of actual shipping orders and shipping of steel.

Two features of strength were Missouri Pacific and Cotton Oil. The advance of the former—more than 2 points—was thought to be due to the extension of the company's notes for another year, while in the case of the latter, which at one time was 3 points higher, it was rumored that dividends would be restored at a meeting next month.

Bethlehem Steel rose to 125, another new high record, and 17 points above the price of \$105. Following the publication of the afternoon of a report from London purporting to come from one of the high officials of the English Government, who is quoted as saying, in explanation of the recent rise in Bethlehem Steel:

"At this moment everything is in readiness in several great manufacturing plants in the north of England and in Scotland for the building of steel bridges which are for certain contracts required for the railway system. All that is necessary for their construction is structural steel, and this has been ordered and is manufactured in the United States. This one order unquestionably is one of the largest in the point of tonnage ever given to a steel manufacturer, and doubtless accounts in part for the sensational rise in the market price of the company's shares on Wall Street."

The heavy demand for Bethlehem stocks, which were up 17 points of the list, and the remainder of the market closed weak, virtually all shares being below the final of yesterday. Bethlehem lost a point from the high and closed at 125, up 18 points from the final of Saturday.

Gold imports are still coming in. Today the International Banking Corporation engaged \$500,000 in gold from Yokohama for shipment to New York. This makes a total of about \$15,500,000 gold shipped from Japan since the beginning of the month.

The American Railway Association issued its monthly idle car statement today. It showed that on April 1 there were 2,867 idle cars on sidings and in yards, which is a decrease of 8670 from the total reported on March 1. The April 1 total, however, is much larger than reported on the first of the same month last year.

Due largely to the recent activity and strength in the stock market, money rates have become firm. Interest rates on 90-day money was moved up a quarter to 3½; 90 days loaned at 2 per cent., an advance of ¼. It is reported by bankers that there is an increase in the demand for call money, and the rate today moved up ½ per cent.

BANK SURPLUS EXPANDS

Philadelphia Institutions Report Gain of Nearly Three Millions.

There was an increase of \$2,510,000 in the savings of the Philadelphia institutions shown in the weekly statement today. Individual deposits decreased \$4,501,000, while funds expanded \$20,000,000.

April 12, 1915. Increase

\$42,620,000. **Decrease**

\$35,365,000.

Total

\$87,985,000.

Loans

16,000,000.

Deposits

10,000,000.

Call

\$1,750,000.

Time

\$1,250,000.

Cash

\$1,250,000.

Paper, three to six months

Philadelphia, \$100,000.

New York, \$100,000.

Chicago, \$100,000.

Boston, \$100,000.

St. Louis, \$100,000.

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